



General Assembly

***Substitute Bill No. 234***

***February Session, 2016***

\* \_\_\_\_\_SB00234APP\_\_\_\_\_042816\_\_\_\_\_\*

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE LOCATION OF A FIREARMS TRAINING FACILITY.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1       Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) For the purposes of this  
2       section:

3       (1) "Firearms training facility" means an indoor or outdoor training  
4       facility designed and designated for training with firearms;

5       (2) "Public land" means a state park, state forest or municipal park  
6       or any other publicly owned land that is open to the public for active  
7       or passive recreation; and

8       (3) "State agency" has the same meaning as provided in section 1-79  
9       of the general statutes.

10       (b) On and after the effective date of this section, no state agency  
11       shall construct a firearms training facility unless such state agency (1)  
12       purchased or leased the property on which such firearms training  
13       facility will be located prior to said date and such property is not  
14       public land, (2) constructs such firearms training facility on property  
15       owned or leased and used by the federal or state government as a  
16       firearms training facility prior to said date, or (3) purchases or leases  
17       property on which such firearms training facility will be located

18 pursuant to the provisions of section 2 of this act.

19 (c) On and after the effective date of this section, any state agency  
20 that constructs a firearms training facility or expands a firearms  
21 training facility shall design such firearms training facility to  
22 incorporate noise reducing methods, including the installation of  
23 baffles in such a manner to reduce or redirect sound waves. The  
24 Department of Administrative Services, in consultation with the  
25 Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, may adopt  
26 regulations, in accordance with chapter 54 of the general statutes, to  
27 implement the provisions of this subsection. Such regulations may  
28 include, but need not be limited to, the size, location, construction and  
29 type of baffles in a firearms training facility.

30 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) For the purposes of this  
31 subsection, "firearms training facility" means an indoor or outdoor  
32 training facility designed and designated for training with firearms,  
33 and "sponsoring agency" means the state department, institution or  
34 agency responsible for the preparation of an environmental impact  
35 evaluation pursuant to subsection (c) of section 22a-1b of the general  
36 statutes.

37 (b) After the Office of Policy and Management makes a written  
38 determination that an environmental impact evaluation with respect to  
39 a proposed construction, expansion or development of a firearms  
40 training facility satisfies the requirements of part I of chapter 439 of the  
41 general statutes, the sponsoring agency shall not make its final  
42 decision on such proposed construction, expansion or development  
43 without the approval by referendum of the municipality within whose  
44 territorial limits the firearms training facility is located or is to be  
45 located.

46 Sec. 3. (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Department of Emergency  
47 Services and Public Protection, in consultation with the Department of  
48 Administrative Services, shall conduct a study to find a suitable  
49 replacement for the firearms training facility located in Simsbury in

50 order to meet the firearms training needs of the Department of  
 51 Emergency Services and Public Protection. The study shall include, but  
 52 need not be limited to, the following: (1) A description of the needs of a  
 53 firearms training facility; (2) an evaluation of each firearms training  
 54 facility owned by the state or available for use by the department  
 55 according to the (A) types of ranges such as indoor or outdoor, small  
 56 arms, rifle or shotgun, (B) capacity of each range in terms of the  
 57 number of persons that can use the range at the same time, (C) number  
 58 of hours the firearms training facility can be operated per day and on  
 59 weekends without creating a neighborhood nuisance, (D) on-site  
 60 classroom facilities, (E) potential for expansion to meet the needs of the  
 61 department, and (F) environmental issues at the site; (3) the feasibility  
 62 and desirability of using an existing firearms training facility or a  
 63 combination of existing firearms training facilities to meet the firearms  
 64 training needs of the department; and (4) a tentative construction  
 65 budget and timetable for locating the department's firearms training  
 66 facility at one or more existing firearms training facilities.

67 (b) Not later than January 1, 2017, the department shall submit a  
 68 report on the results of such study, in accordance with the provisions  
 69 of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committee  
 70 of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to  
 71 public safety and security.

72 (c) The department shall not proceed with the preparation of any  
 73 environmental impact evaluation contemplated by subsection (c) of  
 74 section 22a-1b of the general statutes pertaining to a firearms training  
 75 facility until the report described in subsection (b) of this section is  
 76 submitted.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	New section

**PS**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*

**APP**      *Joint Favorable*